Gauge Conversion of Dharangadhra-Kuda salt siding would be taken up once the modalities for cost sharing between the Govt. of Gujarat, Salt Commissioner and this Ministry is finalised.

(c) Railways do not maintain Statewise details of fund allocated.

[English]

Fire at Calcutta's Underground Metro Railway

1078. SHRI MOHAN RAWALE : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether a fire broke out in the Calcutta's undergound Metro Railway in November, 1995;

(b) if so, the main caause of the incident;

(c) whether a forensic report on the fire has revealed that it was caused by sabotage;

(d) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto; and

(e) the measures taken by the Government to check such incidents in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) Yes, Sir. On 17.11.95, at 6.55 hrs. a small fire broke out underneath a coach of Up Pilot empty coaching rake which was not carrying any passengers, at Central station.

(b) The fire broke out due to the power cables of the rear-end junction box of the affected coach being cut, which was suspected to be an act of sabotage.

(c) The forensic report received from the Central Forensic Laboratory/Calcutta indicated use of a tool to cut the power cables.

(d) An FIR was lodged on 17.11.95 with the Regeant Park Police Station, Calcutta who registered a case under Section 126(A) (1)/128 of the Railways Act read with 120B, IPC.

(e) The following measures have been taken to check such incidents :-

1. Railway staff have been instructed to exercise greater vigil on unidentified persons to avoid such incidents.
2. Security in the Maintenance Sheds has been tightened up.

Industry Status to Tourism

1079. SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO : Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government had asked the States to give industrial status to tourism;

(b) if so, the names of the States which have given industry status to tourism; and

(c) the names of the remaining States which have not giving the industrial status to tourism?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRI SRIKANTA JENA): (a) to (c). At the initiatives of Department of Tourism, the following States which have declared Tourism as an Industry.

1. Andhra Pradesh 2. Assam 3. Bihar 4. Haryana 5. Himachal Pradesh 6. Jammu & Kashmir 7. Kerala 8. Madhya Pradesh 9. Tamil Nadu 10. Tripura 11. Karnataka 12. Uttar Pradesh 13. Pondicherry 14. Maharashtra 15. Mizoram 16. Arunachal Pradesh 17. Andaman and Nicobar Islands 18. Rajasthan 19. Lakshadweep 20. Orissa 21. Chandigarh 22. West Bengal.

The remaining States provide various incentives and concessions to Tourism related activities.

[Translation]

Demand to Increase Reservation Quota from Purnia Railway Station

1080. SHRI RAJESH RANJAN ALIAS PAPPU YADAV : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any demand for increasing the reservation quota of all the tains from Katihar (Purnia) railway station;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons for delay in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) to (c). A demand has been received for enhancement of reservation quota from Purnia in all classes. Owing to limited availability of accommodation in the trains and full utilisation of quotas by all the quota holding stations, it has not been found feasible to increase the quota for the present.

Functioning of Satna and Reeva Airport

1081. SHRI SUKH LAL KUSHWAHA : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to restore the functioning of Satna and Reeva Airports in Madhya Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI C.M. IBRAHIM) : (a) to (c). Satna Airport belongs to Airports Authority of India. No airline has shown interest in operating to/from this airport. Reeva airport belongs to the State Govt. of Madhya Pradesh.